

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Janet Hood on 10/19/2009.

1-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method for configuring a device in a data network, the data network comprising an address server, one or more devices requiring configuration, and one or more parameter servers, comprising:

storing a domain name for a device in the device;

storing in an address server on the data network a data record comprising an IP address of a particular parameter server of the one or more parameter servers, wherein the particular parameter server is associated with the domain name;

transmitting a request message from the device to the address server, wherein the request message includes the domain name;

ascertaining by the address server the data record associated with the

domain name in the received message;

receiving a response message from the address server by the device, the response message comprising the IP address of the particular parameter server associated with the domain name from the data record;

setting up a connection to the particular parameter server by the device, the device using the IP address of the particular parameter server extracted from the response message to set up the connection; and

receiving parameters by the device from the particular parameter server, wherein the parameters are used to configure the device; and

wherein both a fictitious domain name and a real domain name are stored in the device and wherein the device first transmits in the request message the real domain name to the address server and if, in response, the device receives a negative acknowledgement because no data record was associated with the real domain name, the device thereafter sends in the request message the fictitious domain name, thereby increasing the probability that the IP address of a particular parameter server will be sent to the device.

18. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 17, wherein the data network is a voice data network in which voice information is sent in data packets on the basis of Internet protocol.

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 17, wherein the IP address of a particular parameter server is stored in a domain name system server as the address server in a text field of the data record associated to the domain name, and wherein the text field is sent to the device in the response.

21-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method for configuring a device in a data network, the data network comprising an address server, one or more devices requiring configuration, and one or more parameter servers, the method comprising:

storing a domain name for a device in the device, the stored domain name is a fictitious domain name which does not belong to a real domain;

storing in the device a real domain name with which the device is associated;

storing in an address server on the data network a data record comprising an IP address of a particular parameter server of the one or more parameter servers, wherein the particular parameter server is associated with the domain name;

transmitting a first request message to the addressing server by the device, the first request message comprising the domain name;

ascertaining by the address server the data record associated with the domain name in the received message;

transmitting the IP address of the particular parameter server to the device by the addressing server in response to a receipt of the first request message,

wherein the device uses the IP address to set up a connection to the particular parameter server, and

wherein the particular parameter server uses this connection to transmit to the device parameters which are used to configure the device,
prior to transmitting the first request message:
transmitting a second request message to the addressing server,
the second request message comprising the real domain name; and
receiving a negative acknowledgement by the device from the addressing server when address information for the parameter server cannot be ascertained in the domain name system server based on the real domain name transmitted in the second request message,
wherein the transmission of the first request message with the fictitious domain name to the addressing server is in response to the receipt of the negative acknowledgement message.

27. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 26, wherein the IP address related to the particular parameter server associated with the

device is stored in a text field which belongs to the data record which belongs to the domain name associated with this device, and wherein the text field is sent to the device as the response.

28. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 26, wherein the domain name is entered and stored in the device by a user or an administrator.

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) An arrangement for configuring a device in a data network, the data network comprising an address server, one or more devices requiring configuration, and one or more parameter servers, the device having a memory, the arrangement comprising:

an addressing server for converting between a domain name of a device and an Internet protocol (IP) address of a particular parameter server comprising the parameters to configure the device;

wherein the device, the addressing server, and the parameter server are connected via the data network, wherein

the device is designed to:

store a fictitious domain name and a real domain name, the fictitious domain name is a fully-qualified domain name, the real domain name is associated with the device,

transmitting a first request message to the addressing server, the first request message comprising the real domain name;

receiving a negative acknowledgement from the addressing server when address information cannot be ascertained, by the address server, for the real domain name transmitted, and

transmit, after receiving the negative acknowledgement, a second request message to the addressing server, said second request message comprising the fully qualified fictitious domain name stored in the device, wherein the addressing server is designed to:

use the fully qualified domain name transmitted by the device to look up a text field associated with the transmitted domain name, the text field having address information of the particular parameter server, the address information including a port number,

form a response message comprising the looked address information of the particular parameter server assigned to the device, the response being a negative acknowledgement when the address information cannot be ascertained, the response message transmitted to the device in response to the request message,

wherein the device is further designed to connect to the particular

parameter server based on the response message, and
wherein the particular parameter server is adapted to send parameters to
the device.

31. (previously presented) The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 30,
wherein the data network is a voice data network in which voice information is
sent in data packets on the basis of an Internet protocol.

32. (canceled)

33. (previously presented) The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 30,
wherein the addressing server is a domain name system server.

34. (previously presented) The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 33,
further comprising:

a DHCP server connected to the device via the data network and
designed to send the domain name to the device using a DHCP method after
said device has been started up, the domain name being that domain name
which is used by the device in the request message.

35. (previously presented) The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 34,

wherein the device is assigned to a domain in the data network, and the domain name sent in the request message is a name of this domain.

36. (previously presented) The arrangement as claimed in patent claim 30, wherein in the addressing server is stored the data record with a fictitious domain name which does not belong to a real domain, and wherein the fictitious domain name is simultaneously stored as domain name in the memory of devices in which no domain name for the real domain associated therewith is stored.

37. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 17, wherein the stored domain name is a fully-qualified domain name.

38. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 17, wherein the domain name is a fictitious domain name which does not belong to a real domain.

39. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 38, wherein both a real domain name and a fictitious domain name are stored in the device.

40-42. (canceled)

43. (currently amended) The method as claimed in patent claim 42 26,
wherein the real domain name is a fully-qualified domain name.
44. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 26, wherein
the stored domain name is a fully-qualified domain name.
- 45-48 (cancelled).
49. (previously presented) The method as claimed in patent claim 17 wherein
a fictitious domain name comprising the generally known domain name of the
device is stored by the manufacturer in the device and wherein the fictitious
domain name is also stored in the address server and associated with a
particular parameter server.
50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein a real domain
name is stored in the device in addition to the fictitious domain name, and
wherein the device first transmits in the request message the real domain name
to the address server and if, in response, the device receives a negative
acknowledgement because no data record was associated with the real domain
name, the device thereafter sends in the request message the fictitious domain

name, thereby increasing the probability that the IP address of a particular parameter server will be sent to the device.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 17, 18, 20, 26-28, 30, 31, 33-39, 43, 44, 49, and 50 will be allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not provide for nor suggests providing for as follows:

A method for configuring a device in a data network, the data network comprising an address server, one or more devices requiring configuration, and one or more parameter servers, comprising:

storing a domain name for a device in the device;

storing in an address server on the data network a data record comprising an IP address of a particular parameter server of the one or more parameter servers, wherein the particular parameter server is associated with the domain name;

wherein both a fictitious domain name and a real domain name are stored in the device and wherein the device first transmits in the request message the real domain name to the address server and if, in response, the device receives a negative acknowledgement because no data record was associated with the real domain name, the device thereafter sends in the request message the fictitious domain name, thereby

increasing the probability that the IP address of a particular parameter server will be sent to the device (see, e.g., specification, paragraph [0042]-[0043]).

The closest prior art (Golla et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,587,874) teaches as follows:

Client network devices and configuration servers are used together to automatically configure the client network devices (see, e.g., abstract); and

Network device generates a request for the IP addresses required of its interfaces. The request may contain the device's hardware address as specified by the DHCP protocol. The DHCP server receives the request and identifies and retrieves the appropriate IP addresses. It then replies with these IP addresses, pursuant to the DHCP protocol. Knowing its IP address, network device does a DNS query to resolve its name. DNS query is sent to a DNS server that maintains a table of bindings. A DNS response to network device contains the name of network device, i.e., the "hostname", and network device may now be identified by its name (see, e.g., col. 6, lines 6-22).

Therefore, Golla fails to teach or suggest that storing both a fictitious domain name and a real domain name in the device and wherein the device first transmits in the request message the real domain name to the address server and if, in response, the device receives a negative acknowledgement because no data record was associated with the real domain name, the device thereafter sends in the request message the fictitious domain name, thereby increasing the probability that the IP address of a particular parameter server will be sent to the device.

For these reasons, in conjunction with the other limitations of the independent claim, puts this case in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEONG S. PARK whose telephone number is (571)270-1597. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:00 - 3:30 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2454

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. S. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2454

October 19, 2009

/NATHAN FLYNN/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2454